

Message Text

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TAGS: EAGR UR

SUBJ: USSR: WEATHER AND CROPS REPORT

1. HARVESTING OPERATIONS WERE CONTINUING THROUGHOUT THE USSR. GRAIN HARVESTING WAS NEARING COMPLETION IN CENTRAL ASIA, NORTH CAUCASUS, SOUTHERN OBLASTS OF THE UKRAINE AND MOLDAVIA. NEW AREAS THAT HAVE RECENTLY JOINED HARVESTING INCLUDE NORTHERN AREAS OF EUROPEAN USSR, URALS, SIBERIA AND NORTHERN PART OF KAZAKHSTAN.

2. DURING THE FIRST DECADE IN AUGUST WEATHER CONDITIONS IN MOSCOW REGIONS OF EUROPEAN USSR WERE FAVORABLE, CHARACTERIZED WITH ONLY OCCASIONAL RAINS AND TEMPERATURES IN THE RANGE OF 82 TO 93 DEGREES F. AT THE END OF THE DECADE (AUGUST 8-10) HEAVIER RAINS, WITH AN ACCUMULATION OF 1.5 TO OVER TWO INCHES, AND IN SOME AREAS AS HIGH AS FOUR INCHES, FELL IN EASTERN UKRAINE, NORTH CAUCASUS, WESTERN PARTS OF CENTRAL CHERNOZEM ZONE, CENTRAL OBLASTS OF NON-CHERNOZEM ZONE AND THE BALTIK STATES. ALTHOUGH THE RAINS COMPLICATED HARVESTING OPERATIONS IN THESE AREAS. THEY PROVIDED ADDITIONAL SOIL MOISTURE. FAVORABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS WITH HARDLY ANY RAIN PREVAILED

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DURING THIS PERIOD IN WESTERN UKRAINE, MOLDAVIA, BELORUSSIA,

LOWER AND CENTRAL VOLGA REGIONS, AND EASTERN PARTS OF THE CENTRAL AND CENTRAL CHERNOZEM ZONE.

3. GROWING CONDITIONS FOR LATE CROPS WERE FAVORABLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE EUROPEAN USSR. SUGARBEETS ADVANCED RAPIDLY, GAINING 50-100 GRAMS DURING THE 10- DAY PERIOD AND REACHING AN AVERAGE WEIGHT OF 200-500 GRAMS. THIS REPORTEDLY WAS MUCH MORE THAN A YEAR AGO. IN MANY REGIONS OF THE UKRAINE AND SOUTHERN BELORUSSIA POTATOE TUBERS REACHED A WEIGHT OF 400 TO 600 GRAMS PER PLANT, WHILE IN SOME AREAS THEIR WEIGHT REACHED 800 GRAMS. IN MOST AREAS OF THE EUROPEAN USSR POTATOES WERE PASSING THE BLOOMING STAGE AND THEIR CONDITION WAS REPORTED GOOD.

4. THE DEVELOPMENT OF CORN WAS REPORTED AS FAVORABLE. IN AREAS OF GRAIN PRODUCTION FORMATION OF THE COB AND GRAIN WAS PROGRESSING WELL. IN KRASNODAR KRAY AND THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLICS OF THE NORTH CAUCASUS SOME CORN FIELDS REACHED WAX STAGE, WHICH IS EIGHT TO 10 DAYS EARLIER THAN USUAL. IN SOUTHERN MILDVIA, EASTERN HALF OF THE UKRAINE, AND IN ROSTOV, VORONEZH AND BELGOROD OBLAST CORN WAS IN MILK STAGE.

5. SUN FLUOWER REPORTEDLY WAS RIPE IN NORTH CAUCASUS, MILDVIA, A MAJORITY OF REGIONS IN UKRAINE AND LOWER AND CENTRAL VOLGA REGION. AVERAGE SIZE OF SUNFLOWER HEAD REACHED SEVEN TO NINE INCHES.

6. IN WESTERN SIBERIA AND NORTH KAZAKHSTAN FAVORABLE CONDITIONS WERE AIDING GRAIN FORMATION. SPRING WHEAT AND BARLEY PLANTED IN THE STEPPE REGION REACHED THE WAX STAGE, SOME SEVEN TO 10 DAYS EARLIER THAN LAST YEAR. THE GREAT BULK OF THE REGION'S SPRING GRAINS REPORTEDLY REACHED MILK STAGE.

7. IN CENTRAL ASIA, IN A NUMBER OF OBLAST OF TURKMEN, UZBEK AND TADZHIK SSR'S COTTON BOLLIS REPORTEDLY ARE BEGINNING TO OPEN UP.

8. SOURCE: SELSKAYA ZHIZN, AUGUST 14.
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